

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00443 071755Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12
HA-05 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
/090 W

-----006528 071757Z /46

O 071603Z MAR 78 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6894
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MOPS, ZA, RH
SUBJ: RHODESIA: RHODESIANS ATTACK FEIRA

REF: LUSAKA 0722

1. BRAND FOURIE JUST CALLED ME TO RELAY WHAT HE HAD
BEEN ABLE TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE REPORTED RHODESIAN ATTACK
ON FEIRA (REFTEL). THE RHODESIANS HAVE INFORMED HIM THAT
THE RAID TOOK PLACE YESTERDAY (MARCH 6) AT 10 AM.
BEGINNING 48 HOURS BEFORE THE RAID THIS SEQUENCE OF EVENTS
TOOK PLACE:

-- THE RHODESIANS CAPTURED A ZIPRA SOLDIER WHO HAD
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COME INTO RHODESIA.
-- THIS PRISONER REPORTED THAT A ZIPRA FORCE WAS
GATHERING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ZAMBEZI KANYEMBA AREA.
-- THE RHODESIANS ESTABLISHED SURVEILLANCE AND WERE
ABLE TO OBSERVE SOLDIERS GETTING IN AND OUT OF BOATS ON
THE ZAMBIAN SIDE.
-- WHEN THIS FORCE WENT TO THEIR BOATS AND CAME TO THE

RHODESIAN SIDE, RHODESIAN FORCES MET THEM, KILLING 38 PEOPLE.

-- IT WAS AT THIS POINT (10 A.M., MARCH 6) THAT RHODESIAN FORCES CROSSED THE ZAMBEZI RIVER TO THE CAMP FROM WHICH THE ZIPRA RAIDING PARTY HAD COME AND BLEW UP THE AMMUNITION WHICH THEY FOUND THERE. (FOURIE SAID THAT THE CAMP WAS SOME 100 YARDS OR SO INSIDE ZAMBIAN TERRITORY).

2. FOURIE SAID THAT HE HAD ASKED THE RHODESIANS SPECIFICALLY IF THE RAIDERS HAD COME BACK TO RHODESIA STRAIGHT AWAY. HE WAS ASSURED THAT THEY HAD. DURING THIS ACTION THE RHODESIANS REPORTEDLY LOST ONE KILLED (WHETHER ON THE RHODESIAN OR ZAMBIAN SIDE FOURIE DID NOT KNOW).

3. FOURIE SAID THAT HE WAS HASTENING TO RELAY THIS TO US SO WE COULD GET THE PRECISE STORY BEFORE IT APPEARED IN THE PRESS IN DIFFERENT VERSIONS.
BOWDLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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